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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

DATE: 25X1A6a

SUBJECT Political Information: Sino-Russian Newspaper;
Russian Emigrants Association Relations with
the Paper

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25X1A6a

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SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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1. The first edition of the Sino-Russian Newspaper appeared on "Russian Easter", 12 April 1947. Approximately 1,000 copies were distributed on the premises of the Russian Orthodox Cathedral, 55 Rue Paul Henri, after the Easter Services.
2. The aims of the newspaper are the maintenance of friendly cultural relations between the Russian Emigrants and Chinese anti-Communist circles, the defense of the interests of the Emigrants and as a counter measure against current Soviet propaganda. The Russian Emigrant community has been without a newspaper since the closure of all Emigrant publications (including the Shanghai Zarya) by the Japanese.
3. The Sino-Russian Newspaper is published by Archdeacon Elisay CHAO, a Chinese citizen associated with the Russian Orthodox Cathedral. (See paragraph 8). The office of the newspaper is on the premises of the library of the Shanghai Zarya at 918 Avenue Joffre but the paper is printed at 55 Rue Paul Henri. CHAO has several Chinese assistants most of whom are of the Russian Orthodox faith. These individuals received their education in the Peking Russian Orthodox Mission and at the Russian Emigrants High School in Shanghai. Nicoly WEN is the official (honorary?) editor of the newspaper. (See paragraph 8). He is the son of Father Ilian WEN, a Russian Orthodox priest. The unofficial editor is K. E. Spassovsky-Grott, a correspondent for several Russian newspapers in the United States. The secretary of the newspaper is K. A. Gheleta, Russian Emigrant, member of the Russian Emigrant Youth Organization and a professional journalist. Miss L. S. Yarikova, a professional advertising agent who was connected with the Shanghai Zarya for many years, is the advertising manager. She is also advertising manager for the China Daily Tribune (Kuomintang-sponsored) English language daily in Shanghai.
4. The Sino-Russian Newspaper is sold through Emigrant Russian Libraries, newspaper stalls, and by news peddlers. The current price for one copy is CNC \$1,000. It is expected that the monthly subscription price will be CNC \$12,000. However, because the continued appearance of the paper is uncertain, no sales campaign has been undertaken.

Document No. 2

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25X1A2g

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

- 2 -

5. Certain opposition to this newspaper is expected from the controlling group of the Russian Emigrant Association. During the general meeting of the United Don Cossaks Section of the Cossacks Union, it was decided to request the Executive Committee of the Russian Emigrant Association to support an Emigrant daily. Colonel G. K. Bologov, Chairman of the Association, promised to take steps to organize such a paper but so far little has been accomplished. The Executive Committee of the Association did collect a considerable sum of money for the proposed paper. The Committee also negotiated with Y. J. Lovich-Deich, owner of the Blue Library on Rue Cardinal Mercier, who was proposed as editor. N. A. Barsukov, a member of the Executive Committee of the Association, who has a position on the Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury, insisted that the Association purchase a printing plant through him and give him a good job on the proposed paper. Prohibitive costs, plus this dissension made it impossible to complete the plans for the Emigrant Association's proposed newspaper.
6. At the present time, those concerned with the Sino-Russian Newspaper are attempting to secure Bologov's approval and at least his verbal support of their paper. There are those in the Emigrant Association who are afraid that any dissension will bring criticism to the effect that the Sino-Russian Newspaper represents a second faction and that the paper is not supporting the work of the Association. There is disagreement and it is quite possible that a second Emigrant newspaper might appear.
- 25X1X6⁷ Local Soviet circles have been extremely interested in the possibility of the publication of a newspaper sponsored by the Emigrant Association. It has been reported that should such a paper appear the Soviet press will start an active campaign against the Emigrant organizations; the members of these groups will be denounced as Fascists, war criminals and collaborators. There is a current rumor that such a paper would certainly be financed by Americans and protected by Chinese reactionary elements. In this connection, another rumor is that a meeting was held by some American, Chinese and Emigrants at which was discussed the possibility of conducting an active anti-Soviet campaign in Shanghai.
- 25X1A6a Through the efforts and initiative of Chinese friends of the Russian Emigrant colony aided by certain active Russian anti-Communists the people of Shanghai are supplied with correct information concerning the methods and work of the Communists by the Sino-Russian Newspaper. The Editor is FEN Hung-ts'ai and the publisher is CHAO T'ao-shen. Although this newspaper is published in the Russian language and does reflect Russian Emigrant ideas it is not in any way connected with the Russian Emigrants Association. It is edited solely by Chinese who are also true anti-Communists. The Russian Emigrants Association is a non-political body organized merely for the purpose of issuing papers of identification, helping in safe-guarding the rights and interests of its members, carrying on the work of charity, and other such activities. The Russian Emigrant Association cannot and will not give the paper financial or physical support as the Association is not a political body. The opinion of members of the Association is that the paper is organized, supported and directed by the Kuomintang; however this opinion is not stated openly. (Note: The general policy of the Sino-Russian Newspaper as well as the attitudes and relations of the Russian Emigrants Association with that newspaper have been expressed in "Letters to the Editor" appearing both the China Daily Tribune and the Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury on 2, 6, 9, and 14 May 1947).
9. Several representatives of the Sino-Russian Newspaper visited the Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Association, Colonel G. K. Bologov, to have his opinion on the paper and to gain his approval. At first they received a cool reception during which Bologov stated that his approval of the newspaper "depends solely on the paper's tendencies; should these tendencies prove to be friendly toward the Russian Emigrant Colony, the

25X1A2g
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

- 2 -

newspaper would gain (his) approval". During the next interview with Bologov, representatives of the newspaper assured him of the sincere, friendly tendencies of the paper toward the Russian Emigrant Colony and reminded him that the Association and the paper had one common enemy -- Communism. The representatives finally came to an understanding with Bologov and gained his approval, although Bologov said that he would never give up hope of having a real Russian National Newspaper.

25X1A6a [REDACTED] Note: The interviews with Bologov and comments were reported in detail in the following issues of the Sino-Russian Newspaper:

- 17 April 1947 "An Interview with Col. G. K. Bologov".
- 20 April 1947 "We are of the Same Opinion".
- 24 April 1947 "The Emigrants are United".)

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